

PROCEEDINGS  
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NOTES ON SOME TOAD BUGS (HEMIPTERA:  
GELASTOCORIDAE) FROM INDIA

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A small collection of gelastocorids from the Darjiling district of India was recently sent to me by A. P. Kapur, Assistant Director of the Zoological Survey of India for identification. While only two species are represented, the information garnered through the study of the material increases our knowledge in several respects.

*Nerthra asiatica* (Horvath)

*Mononyx asiaticus* Horvath, 1892, Természetrzaji Füzetek, 15, pt. 3: 136.—Oshanin, 1909, Verzeichnis der Palaearktischen Hemipteren, vol. 1, p. 956; 1912, Katalog der paläarktischen Hemipteren, p. 89.—Kiritshenko, 1926, Konowia (Zeitsch. syst. Insekt. Mitwirk. fuhr. Ent.), 5(3): 226; 1930, Ann. Mus. Zool. Acad. Sci. URSS, p. 435.—Hoffmann, 1933, Lingnan Sci. Journ., 12, Suppl., p. 250.—Wu, Catalogus Insectorum Sinensium, 2: 559.—Hoffmann, 1941, Lingnan Sci. Journ., 20(1): 44.

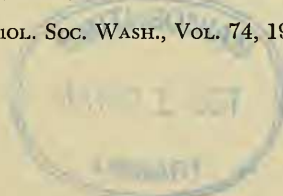
*Nerthra asiatica* (Horvath).—Todd, 1955, Univ. Kansas Sci. Bull., 37, pt. 1(11): 410, Pl. 14, Fig. 128; 1957, Proc. Ent. Soc. Washington, 59(4): 154.

*Mononyx grossus* Montandon, 1899, Bull. Soc. Sci. Bucarest-Roumanie, 8(4/5): 398.—Distant, 1906, Fauna British India, 3: 16.

One ♀ specimen from Sureil, 5000 ft, Darjiling district, India, 11-31 October 1917, N. A. & F. G. This is the first specimen I have examined from India, but the species has been previously reported from there. This specimen is smaller than those previously examined. The range in size may now be stated as follows. Female: Length, 11.0 to 12.2 mm; width of pronotum, 8.0 to 8.1 mm; width of abdomen, 8.0 to 8.5 mm. I have not seen a male of this species. Accordingly, the male genitalia have not been illustrated.

*Nerthra indica* (Atkinson)

*Mononyx indicus* Atkinson, 1888, Jour. Asiatic Soc. Bengal, 57, pt. 2: 345.—Montandon, 1899, Bull. Soc. Sci. Bucarest-Roumanie, 8(4/5):



397.—Distant, 1906, *Fauna British India*, 3: 15.—Paiva, 1919, *Rec. Indian Mus.*, 16, pt. 5(23): 372.

*Nerthra indica* (Atkinson).—Todd, 1955, *Univ. Kansas Sci. Bull.*, 37, pt. 1(11): 405, Pl. 11, Fig. 98; 1957, *Proc. Ent. Soc. Washington*, 59(4): 152.

*Mononyx projectus* Distant, 1906, *Fauna British India*, 3: 15, Fig. 174.

*Mononyx turgidulus* Distant, 1906, *Fauna British India*, 5: 311, Fig. 175. [New synonymy.]

*Nerthra turgidula* (Distant).—Todd, 1955, *Univ. Kansas Sci. Bull.*, 37, pt. 1(11): 406.

Thirteen specimens (5♂♂, 7♀♀ and 1 nymph), all but two from the Carmichael Collection from the following localities in the Darjiling district complete the collection. Ghumti, 1500–5000 ft, June 1914; Sureil, 5000 ft, 11–31 October 1917, N. A. & F. G.; Soom, 4000–5000 ft, 8 July 1914; Singla, 1500 ft, June 1913; Sukna, 1000 ft, May 1913 and Kalimpong, 600–4500 ft.

The study of these specimens requires modifications in previous statements of size range. Male: Length, 8.2 to 9.1 mm; width of pronotum, 5.5 to 6.7 mm; width of abdomen, 5.7 to 6.4 mm. Female: Length, 8.5 to 10.2 mm; width of pronotum, 6.4 to 7.8 mm; width of abdomen, 6.4 to 8.0 mm.



Fig. 1. Right paramere, ventral view of *Nerthra indica* (Atkinson).

The specimens under consideration verify the fact that both sexes are extremely variable in the relative widths of the pronotum and abdomen. In some instances the pronotum is wider, in others the abdomen is the wider. Correspondingly, the width of the connexivum is also variable. The species is also variable in the shape of the lateral margin of the pronotum, but those presently studied have that part less irregular in shape than in those specimens previously studied and in a few instances the specimens from the Darjiling area agree with the illustration of *Mononyx turgidulus* Distant in the shape of the margin. Therefore, I have placed that name in the synonymy of *indica*.

Because my illustration (Todd, 1955, *loc. cit.*, Fig. 98) of the entire right paramere of the male represents a different aspect than that observed when the specimen is relaxed and the paramere directed to the venter, it has been necessary to refigure (Fig. 1) the apical part of the paramere in the latter position.